

for the Center in its fiscal year 1996 Interior appropriation bill. It is my hope, and the hope of all of Indian country, that the Senate in its deliberations on the appropriations measure will see fit to restore funding for this project.

Mr. Speaker, the authority legislation for the National Museum of the American Indian created a solemn and historic obligation on behalf of this Nation to provide a living museum for its native American tribes. We should act in good faith and keep those promises, by recognizing the contributions and cultures of the native peoples who inhabited these lands first and who constitute such an integral and important thread in the fabric of our national cultural heritage. The National Museum of the American Indian Cultural Resources Center deserves our support and funding.

OPPOSING THE LANGUAGE OF HATE

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 21, 1995

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, those of us in politics have lately gotten a bad rap—people think that those of us who represent our neighbors here in Washington are craven and will say anything, stoop to any reprehensible stunt, to attract contributions and votes.

Of course, that's not true. Most Members of Congress are honorable people who are dedicated to public service.

It gets a bit hard to defend this institution when you have to pick up your morning paper and see reprehensible and hateful trash like the latest wanted poster sent out by Republican fundraisers.

Of the many Members of this body who have taken a principled stand against the Contract on America, the whiz kids decided they would push the emotional hot buttons of potential contributors if they depicted the opposition as predominantly Jewish, African-American, Latino, and female.

To which direct mail list was this to be sent? The KKK? Isn't our country divided enough without some craven politician stirring the pot in search of contributions?

One more thing, I was left off this poster and I wish to object. I have worked as hard as anyone to stop the contract's multiple assaults on individual liberty, the environment, consumers, and the Constitution. Yet this wanted poster suggests that I haven't been on the job, or worse yet, have colluded with the contract.

Mr. Speaker, where do I go to get my good name back?

PERSONAL STATEMENT

HON. RONALD D. COLEMAN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 21, 1995

Mr. COLEMAN. Mr. Speaker, on July 18, 1995, during consideration of H.R. 2020, the Treasury, Postal Service, and General Government Appropriations Act for fiscal year 1996, my remarks in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD state that I had planned to support this legislation on final passage. However, due

to the adoption by the House of the amendment regarding the exchange stabilization fund, I did not support this bill.

I took this regrettable action because this legislation was so dramatically altered by this amendment that if signed into law would have a negative impact on the Mexican economy. As you know, my congressional district is highly dependent on trade with Mexico.

I nevertheless plan to deal with this matter in conference to craft a bill which I hope I can support.

FAMILY VALUES FOUND ON THE FRONT PORCH

HON. WILLIAM O. LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 21, 1995

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the pastor of my local parish in Chicago, the Rev. Marcel J. Pasciak. He writes a weekly column in our parish guide entitled "Father Marc's Markings." I found Father Marc's column of July 16, 1995, to be very informative, enjoyable, inspirational, and very much needed in today's society. I think so much of his words that I wish to share them with all who read the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Following is Father Marc's Markings:

FRONT PORCH PEOPLE

We're just not front porch people anymore. In the old neighborhood of Brighton Park, Back of the Yards, and Canaryville, when the temperature reached 80 degrees, families took to the front porch or front stoop. Chairs, stools, pillows, made their way outside as Dad read the paper, Mom knitted or crocheted and Junior with his friends played CLUE or SORRY (Monopoly money blew around too easily in the wind).

Neighbors cradling brown parcels hurrying home from the corner grocery store stopped to exchange greetings and swap stories. People from other porches down the street meandered over to say "hello" or check on the White Sox score. Ladies exchanged gardening tips; men boasted about their new lawn mowers or tools; children either drank cans of Pepsi or hurriedly unwrapped popsicles. Tugging on their mother's aprons, they pleaded for one last bicycle ride around the block before it gets too dark. "The Front Porch" meant family and neighborhood. It reflected a less complicated, more innocent lifestyle in America. The front porch was not only a place to cool off on a hot summer night; but a place where community began, where different ages mixed together, laughing, talking, sipping cool drinks. Relationships were deepened and values were communicated—it was in a sense a holy place.

In our air-conditioned society of 1995, we no longer come out on the stoop to see our neighbors or share board games with the youngsters. We huddle in front of our cable televisions or VCR's with remote control units poised in hand. We don't even huddle together since just about everyone on the household has their own television set. Table games have been replaced by computers or by video games (Nintendo or Sega * * * some quite violent). Children no longer feel energetic enough to ride their bicycles or play catch with Dad in the back yard.

Moms, tired from shopping in the large suburban malls, catch up with laundry or do housework in the evenings; many have put in a full day at work and just don't feel sociable. Dads may still tinker in the garage or

basement workshops—before couching down with beer and snackies before the television set ready for a long evening before the tube (watching sports or the newest Bruce Willis movie). No room for the front porch here.

Yes—times have changed. We no longer have that front porch mentality. No amount of politicians like Robert Dole who promote family values or clergymen inviting church participation or civic leaders calling for neighborhood pride will bring back that front porch stoop and all that it stood for.

What we do need to do is to re-invent or re-translate the front porch spirit of family and neighborhood pride in contemporary terms, in a livable way for our modern society. We need to encourage first of all, neighbors to communicate with their neighbors. In my rounds on house blessings so far, one thing that comes out strongly is the real horror stories of neighbors who live next to one another and refuse to even talk to each other. Incidents of long ago have contributed to a state of co-existence or cold war on both sides of the back yard fences.

Second, why not promote more block parties like so many blocks have each year. Barricade the street, play some music, organize some games, barbecue some food, and invite absolutely everyone to it. Invite the parish priests; maybe have a prayer service or Mass. Talk, play, and pray together.

Third, welcome newcomers who move into the neighborhood. Bring over a cake or some cold drinks and introduce yourself; it sounds corny but, you know, it breaks the ice and builds community.

Fourth, find out who might need some extra help on the block: food shopping, grass cutting, reading the newspaper for, or just sitting with. Encourage your youngsters and teens to assist in a sense of Christian service (no money accepted, please).

Fifth, provide for the safety of the neighborhood. Keep your eyes and ears open for trouble or suspicious activity. Attend police beat meetings to get to know your police officer and what you can do to keep your block safe. Work together and dialogue with neighborhoods to make your block a better place to live.

Sixth, promote this spirit in your own home. Meet your children's friends; invite them over for dinner or pizza. Invite their parents over as well. Plan common activities or trips to Great America or baseball games or to the water park. Do creative tournaments or games in your back yard or front lawn to instill healthy competition (bingo games, chess, stick ball, board games). Encourage your children to walk or bike around the neighborhood, instead of always relying on the automobile to get us around town.

We need desperately to come out of our shells, out of our homes, we need to network and communicate and realize that we depend on one another. We need to rediscover that it's people that makes the world go round—not computers or television images—real live people communicating, laughing, playing, living together. Our stories of faith and life must be filled with memories not of video games and cable movies but of people and neighborhoods and porch stoops.

A TRIBUTE TO MARILYN LEFTWICH

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 21, 1995

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor one of my constituents, from the third